

# ENF Environmental Notification Form

*For Office Use Only*  
*Executive Office of Environmental Affairs*

EOEA No.: 12985  
 MEPA Analyst: Nick ZAVOLAS  
 Phone: 617-626- 1030

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Bowman Lane Area, Sewer Construction & Water Improvements, Contract 02-1		
Street: Various (See Attachment "A")		
Municipality: Westborough	Watershed: Assabet	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude:	Longitude:
Estimated commencement date: Jan. 2003	Estimated completion date:	
Approximate cost: 2.5 million	Status of project design:	0 %complete
Proponent: Town of Westborough Department of Public Works (DPW)		
Street: 131 Oak Street		
Municipality: Westborough	State: MA	Zip Code: 01581
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Ms. Lisa Allain		
Firm/Agency: Westborough DPW	Street: 131 Oak Street	
Municipality: Westborough	State: MA	Zip Code: 01581
Phone: 508-366-3076	Fax: 508-366-3074	E-mail: <a href="mailto:lallain@town.westborough.ma.us">lallain@town.westborough.ma.us</a>

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?  
 Yes  No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?  
 Yes (EOEA No. \_\_\_\_\_)  No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?  
 Yes (EOEA No. \_\_\_\_\_)  No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))  Yes  No
  - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09)  Yes  No
  - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No
  - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): None

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?  
 Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- |                                 |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC   | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations           | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources       |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
<b>LAND</b>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:
Total site acreage	NA			
New acres of land altered		NA		
Acres of impervious area	NA			
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration				
Square feet of new other wetland alteration				
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways				
<b>STRUCTURES</b>				
Gross square footage	NA			
Number of housing units	NA			
Maximum height (in feet)	NA			
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>				
Vehicle trips per day	NA			
Parking spaces	NA			
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	NA			
GPD water withdrawal	NA			
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	29,512 GPD	29,512 GPD	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	.852 miles	2.29 miles	3.14 miles	

**CONSERVATION LAND:** Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

- Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

**RARE SPECIES:** Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

**HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:** Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

**AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN:** Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Westborough DPW is proposing to install approximately 12,000 linear feet of sewer main and services in the Bowman Lane Area and approximately 4,500 linear feet of water main will be replaced on the following streets: Bowman Lane, Olde Coach Road, Jackstraw Path, Sandra Pond Road, and Thomas Rice Drive. The project area was selected in accordance with the Town of Westborough (Town) sewer master plan. Furthermore, this project will eliminate the Garfield Drive pump station that serves a large subdivision while connecting it to a gravity system. The project is not located within an Area of Critical Environmental Concern, or an area designated as a vernal pool or habitat for rare or endangered species.

The project is anticipated to temporarily impact 20,892 s.f. of bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) and 85,076 s.f. of adjacent buffer zone. Over 1/2 of the approximately 11,075 l.f. of the sewer will be installed within an existing asphalt roadway. Impacts to the BVW will be temporary, and there will be no net loss of BVW upon project completion. There is approximately 24,957 s.f. of permanent flood plain alteration. A detailed analysis of each 1 foot elevation was performed and approximately 43,988 s.f total of replacement flood plain area was created upland. The project will be conducted in accordance with an approved Order of Conditions from the Westborough Conservation Commission.

The sewer trench depth will vary from a minimum of 2 feet to approx. 21 feet. The width will be only as wide as needed to place the utility lines. Some cross-country areas will have minor grading alterations and limited tree removal to allow maintenance vehicle access to the sewer line.

The sewer main will cross the Jackstraw Brook in two locations and one of its tributaries. Impacts are anticipated to be minimal since the brook has nominal flow with no visible flow at times. Brook crossing locations were chosen to cause the least amount of impact with the assistance of the Conservation Commission Agent. Brook crossings will entail laying one full length of 18" or 24" diameter drain pipe estimated at a 20-foot length parallel to the edge of banking diverting any potential flow in the brook while construction occurs. Woven type Geotextile mats will be placed under the drain pipe from the banking edge to the opposite banking edge to protect the pipe and keep the existing soil intact. Appropriate cover and materials will be placed over the pipe so that construction vehicles may pass over without any impact to the drain pipe and stream bed soils. The Brook crossings will occur consecutively to reduce overall impacts. Restoration to these areas will include, but not be limited to, restoring the bank with stabilizing riprap and replacing the top 12 inches of streambed with original materials. One crossing may require enhancements to an existing

headwall. To ensure restoration will be effective, the top 12" of sediments will be stockpiled and maintained in a sedimentation basin with a geotextile mat beneath and over the materials.

Approximately 470 feet of sewer main will be installed within BVW. Construction vehicles will work within a two-track system approximately 42 feet wide to complete these two segments. The sewer trench will be back-filled with native material except for immediate fill around the pipe, which will ensure the integrity of the pipe during backfill operations. Bentonite clay barriers will be placed in the trench at approximately 200 foot intervals to minimize the possibility that the trench will become a conduit for drainage. Trench work within the wetlands will be accomplished during a time of low water and /or during winter months when the ground is frozen. The topography of the wetlands will be restored to its original state, and native species of wetland vegetation will be planted following construction. Furthermore, the Conservation Commission Agent, prior to application, will approve wetland seed mix. There will be no net loss of bordering vegetated wetland or flood storage capacity in these two areas. See attached plan for specifics.

**Summary Totals of Temporary Alterations:**

Work w/in Buffer Zone:	<b>85,076 sf</b>	Work w/in Wetland Area:	<b>20,892 sf</b>
Land under waterways:	<b>890 sf</b>	Linear feet of bank:	<b>80 lf</b>
Work w/in Zone A (designated by Flood Hazard Boundary Maps)			<b>24,957 sf</b>

**ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS**

The first alternative examined was no build. Since the revised Title 5 regulations effective on March 31, 1995, the failure rate, based on inspections, in this area is approximately 21 percent. There is a large financial burden to the homeowners who must upgrade their existing sewer systems in substandard soil conditions. Furthermore, Westborough Reservoir is in close proximity of this project. The reservoir serves as a public water supply for the Town of Westborough and the potential negative environmental impact of this alternative could be significant.

The second alternative was to install sewers within the existing roadways but eliminate all cross-country sections. This would require that the Town build three additional pump station. Furthermore, the Garfield pump station that serves a large residential development would have to remain in place. There are sizable costs associated with building a pump station and substantial maintenance and daily operating costs that will be incurred each year. Due to these reasons, the Town has the policy of reducing or eliminating pump stations as much as possible.

**MITIGATING MEASURES**

Haybales and silt fences will be installed along the limits of work. Soil materials associated with the excavation of the trench shall be stockpiled outside the buffer zone and actual BVWs. Wherever possible, the backfill material will be put back in place the same day of work.

The methodology for work in the wetland as been tailored to prevent compaction within the work area. Impact to the BVWs will be minimized by the use of a woven geotextile mat on the access path and the use of 1'x4'x24' mats all surrounded by haybales and silt fence. The equipment sits on the mat while it digs the trench, lays the pipe, and fills the trench back to grade when done. A detailed drawing of the wetland crossing has been enclosed. All areas within the buffer zone and BVWs that are disturbed will be restored to their original condition following completion of the installation of the subsurface utilities in each resource area before moving onto the next area. Also, clay dams and watertight covers will be used to minimize impact.

Best Management practices (BMP) will be employed during all construction activities, to reduce or eliminate impacts to the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Specifically, work will occur either during frozen ground conditions or dry periods if possible, as suggested on another project to the Town of Westborough by MaryAnn DiPinto of the DEP on June 7, 2001.